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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q67539

Masafumi NISHITANI, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/000,219

Group Art Unit: 1764

Confirmation No.: 9175

Examiner: Thanh P. DUONG

Filed: December 4, 2001

For: GOLF CLUB

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT **UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed without a Statement Under 37 C.F.R § 1.97(e) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is

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earlier), and therefore the USPTO is directed and authorized to charge the statutory fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account 19-4880.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

Initially, Applicant notes that three documents, namely JP-A-09-248353, JP-A-09-99121, and JP-A-08-126723, were previously submitted in the Information Disclosure Statement of January 20, 2004 together with English language abstracts.¹ Applicant presently submits the attached English language translations of JP-A-09-248353, JP-A-09-99121, and JP-A-08-126723 together with these documents.

Further, Applicant notes that JP-A-06-121845 and JP-A-05-305162 are submitted. U.S. Patent No. 5,429,357, which is cited on the Form SB/08, is the corresponding U.S. application to JP-A-06-121845 and JP-A-05-305162. With respect to the requirement for a concise statement of relevance regarding JP-A-06-121845 and JP-A-05-305162, in addition to the English language abstracts submitted herewith, Applicant notes the pertinent portion of JP-A-06-121845 is described in col. 3, line 38 to col. 4, line 7 (including Figures 5 to 8) of U.S. Patent No. 5,429,357, while the pertinent portion of JP-A-05-305162 is described in col. 4, the second line from the bottom, to col. 5, line 39 (including Figures 14 to 16) of U.S. Patent No. 5,429,357.

¹ Applicant notes that, as of the date of this submission, the Examiner has not returned an initialed copy of the Form SB/08 submitted with the IDS of January 20, 2004.

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In addition, Applicant submits JP-A-08-131583, JP-A-11-019255, JP-A-05-015620, JP-A-09-192272, JP-A-10-137372², JP-A-10-015123, JP-A-10-151231, and JP-A-59-20182, which were cited during the prosecution of a corresponding foreign application (Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-173840, now Japanese Patent No. 3635227), with English language abstracts. U.S. Patents Nos. 5,830,084 and 5,405,136, which were also cited during the examination of the corresponding Japanese application, are likewise cited on the Form SB/08.

Also, JP-A-10-165546 is submitted together with an English language abstract.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

² Applicant notes that U.S. Application 5,830,084, which is also cited in the Form SB/08, is a corresponding application of JP-A-10-137372.

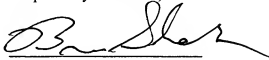
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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 28, 2006

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO		Complete if Known		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	10/000,219	
		Confirmation Number	9175	
		Filing Date	December 4, 2001	
		First Named Inventor	Masafumi NISHITANI	
		Art Unit	1764	
		Examiner Name	Thanh P. DUONG	
Sheet	1	of	Attorney Docket Number	Q67539

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 5,429,357		07/04/1995	Kobayashi
		US 5,405,136		04/11/1995	Hardman
		US 5,830,084		11/03/1998	Kosmatka

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	08-126723	A	05/21/1996	Bridgestone Sports Co. Ltd.	Yes
		JP	09-248353	A	09/22/1997	Bridgestone Sports Co. Ltd.	Yes
		JP	09-099121	A	04/15/1997	Bridgestone Sports Co. Ltd.	Yes
		JP	06-121845	A	05/06/1994	Endo Seisakusho:KK	Abstract
		JP	05-305162	A	11/19/1993	Endo Seisakusho:KK	Abstract
		JP	08-131583	A	05/28/1996	Endo Seisakusho:KK	Abstract
		JP	11-019255	A	01/26/1999	Kamui Works Japan:KK	Abstract
		JP	05-015620	A	01/26/1993	Yamaha Corp.	Abstract
		JP	09-192272	A	07/29/1997	Yamaha Corp.	Abstract
		JP	10-137372	A	05/26/1998	Callaway Gold Co.	Abstract
		JP	10-015123	A	01/20/1998	Paramount Precision	Abstract
		JP	10-151231	A	06/09/1998	Nippon Steel Corp.	Abstract
		JP	59-20182	A	02/01/1984		Abstract
		JP	10-165546	A	06/23/1998	Yamaha Corp.	Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature	/Tom Duong/	Date Considered	03/12/2009
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant to indicate how the document was translated.

THIS INFORMATION IS CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /TD/
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